(b) if so, the steps taken for proper exploitation of oil and natural gas from Mahanadi basin and Bay of Bengal onshore and offshore; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T. R. BALLU): (a) to (c) Oil India Ltd. (OIL) has carried out about 3814 Standard Line Kilometers (SLKM) and 13943 Line Kilometers (LKM) of seismic survey including processing and interpretation in Mahanadi onshore and Mahanadi and North-East Coast Offshore areas respectively. Based on the seismic data, a total of 15 Nos. of well were drilled in the above areas. However, no commercial discovery of hydrocarbon deposits have so far been made.

Under the various exploration rounds Government, of India has so far offered 15 exploration blocks to privatojoint venture companies in Bengal and Mahanadi basins. However, no block was awarded. In the offshore Krishna-Godavari and Cauvery basin, which form an integral part of Bay of Bengal, hydrocarbon reserves have been established and are under exploitation by Joint Venture companies.

Freezing of Administered Price of Naphtha

1195. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL:
SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to fuel linkages for specified projects other than Naphtha;

(b) whether it is also a fact that after freezing of Naphtha from the administered price mechanism, the power projects based on Naphtha will be affected; and

(c) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T. R. BALLU): (a) to (c) As the indigenous Naphtha has already been committed to meet the demand of existing customers and the prospective customers to whom the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has already approved allocations, the Government has taken a decision that Independent Power Producers (IPPs) requirement of liquid fuels would be met through imports.

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas approved allocations of liquid fuels to IPPs based on recommendations received from the Ministry of Power to be supplied at normal (non-subsidised) price under the administered pricing mechanism, as fixed by the Government from time to time, taking into consideration the import parity prices as well as storage, transportation, handling costs plus margin. In case of abolition of APM, the price of the product will be as per merket determined pricing, based on import parity prices plus storage, transportation, handling charges alongwith margin of the company.

As per the model Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) circulated to IPPs, the price of liquid fuels will consist of weighted average landed cost, import handling charge, infrastructure charge, service charge, guarantee charge and actual freight charge or notional freight charge (as applicable).

Supply of Bitumen to Gujarat

1196. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DEVE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the supply of Bitumen to Gujarat is tied up with Koyali refinery;

(b) if so, whether the supply of Bitumen is as per their demand;